

For More Information

Ministerial Forum

www.agoa.gov

Civil Society Forum

Civil Society Coalition for the
2006 AGOA Civil Society Forum
www.bread.org/agoa

To register online
<http://ga4.org/Bread/events/agoa/details.tcl>
202-464-8195 voicemail

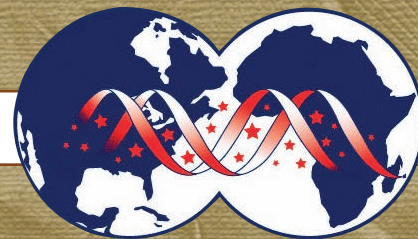
Private Sector Programs

Corporate Council on Africa
www.africacncl.org

The Whitaker Group
www.thewhitakergroup.us



Hundreds of African companies are now exporting goods to the United States under AGOA or exploring opportunities to do so. These companies produce a wide range of products that include textiles and apparel, handicrafts, fresh fruits and vegetables, and processed goods.



AGOA Forum 2006

**The Private Sector and Trade:
Powering Africa's Growth**



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**Ministerial Forum
June 6-7, 2006
Washington, DC**



“Economic development is not something we do for countries; it is something they achieve with us.”

—President George W. Bush, June 30, 2005
Freer Gallery, Washington, DC



“Africa is a continent of overwhelming promise. All human beings possess the dignity and the capacity to flourish in freedom. And AGOA is helping the talented men and women of Africa to realize their natural potential for prosperity.”

—Condoleezza Rice, Secretary of State, July 20, 2005
remarks at the AGOA Forum, Dakar, Senegal.

AFRICAN GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY ACT

The Private Sector and Trade: Powering Africa's Growth

The African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) was signed into law as part of the Trade and Development Act of 2000 on May 18, 2000 to promote economic development and expedite the integration of African economies into the world trading system. AGOA provides duty-free access to the U.S. market for more than 6,500 African products. AGOA also provides a framework for U.S.-African cooperation among governments, private sectors, and civil society to work together to build trade capacity and to expand business links.



Governments Working Together

The AGOA ministerial provides a forum for ministers from all AGOA-eligible countries and the United States to discuss new policies and initiatives that promote mutually beneficial trade and economic development.



Private Sector Investing in Future Markets

The AGOA Private Sector Forum is dedicated to turning the promise of AGOA into reality by helping participating companies and entrepreneurs find new markets, and new partners.



Civil Society Groups Involved in AGOA Implementation

The AGOA Civil Society Forum brings together a wide array of U.S. and African non-governmental organizations, representatives of small-to-medium sized businesses, chambers of commerce, and other groups to discuss ways to implement AGOA so that it benefits all segments of American and African society, including the poorest.

African Growth and Opportunity Act Successes

AGOA has been a success, increasing our two-way trade with Africa and diversifying the range of products being traded.

- Botswana's AGOA exports to the United States increased 50 % in 2005, to a total of \$30.1

million from the \$20.1 million recorded in 2004.

- In December 2005, a Cameroonian firm signed a contract with a U.S. textile firm to produce 3 million workers' uniforms.
- In Mauritius, a Pakistani company established a spinning mill that will produce 6,000 tons of cotton yarn annually. The company's decision to build the mill in Mauritius was motivated by the AGOA benefits enjoyed by Mauritius.

In 2005, AGOA exports to the U.S. totaled \$38.1 billion, up 44 % from 2004. Since AGOA was launched in 2000, the growth in AGOA-eligible countries' total exports is impressive:

- footwear, up 306%;
- toys and sportswear, up 88%;
- fruits and nuts, up 81%; and
- cut flowers, up 35%.